United Nations

A/56/796

General Assembly

Distr.: General
25 January 2002

Original: English

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 20 (f)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan

Letter dated 22 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Kyrgyzstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions of my Government, I have the honour to transmit the information on conveyance of humanitarian aid to Afghanistan (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this information circulated under agenda item 20 (f) of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Kamil **Baialinov**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 22 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Kyrgyzstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Delivery of humanitarian assistance to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

On the initiative of three States — the Russian Federation, the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan — the International Humanitarian Coalition, consisting of the Russian Federal Ministry of Civil Defence, Emergencies and the Elimination of the Consequences of Natural Disasters, the Ministry of Ecology and Emergencies of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Emergencies of the Republic of Tajikistan, and representatives of the World Food Programme (WFP), was formed in late October 2001. The Coalition's goal was the delivery of humanitarian assistance (food) from WFP warehouses in Osh, Kyrgyz Republic, to Faizabad, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

Over the course of the operation, which began on 10 November 2001, more than 300 trucks, over 40 specialized vehicles and 140 employees of the ministries of emergencies of the three States were deployed.

From 10 November 2001 to 16 January 2002, over 9,000 tons of food were delivered from Osh to Faizabad, using 54 convoys of 35 trucks each.

The humanitarian corridor ran through the territories of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Afghanistan. The general length of the route from Osh to Faizabad was 1,200 kilometres, and the average elevation ranged from 3,200 to 4,500 metres above sea level.

The experience of carrying out this joint humanitarian operation showed the necessity of concentrating the efforts of the States concerned for the successful achievement of the ultimate aim.

During the operation Kyrgyzstan gained experience in carrying out joint operations for the provision of humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan.

In the future, Kyrgyzstan might be able to assume the following tasks in relation to the provision of assistance to the people of Afghanistan, in cooperation with members of the international community:

- Organizing protection and accompaniment for convoys of humanitarian goods, in cooperation with the ministries of emergencies of the Central Asian countries;
- Making warehouses available for the storage of humanitarian goods;
- Making transport available;
- Allocating humanitarian corridors in the territory of Kyrgyzstan;

- The Ministry of Ecology and Emergencies of the Kyrgyz Republic has within its sub-units the necessary human resources and productive capacity to deal with questions concerning the rehabilitation of schools, hospitals, bridges and roads that have been destroyed in the territory of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.